

**Health Service Executive – North West
Physical & Sensory Disability Service, Sligo,
Leitrim, & West Cavan**

JFK House, Kennedy Parade, Sligo
Tel (071) 9135001 Fax (071) 9135002

Acquired Brain Injury Ireland

2 Racecourt Manor, Tonaphubble, Sligo
Tel (071) 9153472

SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY AND THEIR FAMILIES

Acquired Brain Injury:

Acquired Brain Injury is an inclusive category that embraces acute brain injury of any cause including

- Trauma due to Head injury or post surgical damage (following tumour removal)
- Vascular accident (stroke or sub-arachnoid haemorrhage)
- Cerebral anoxia
- Other toxic or metabolic insult (e.g. hypoglycaemia)
- Infection (e.g. meningitis, encephalitis, sinusitis, sexually transmitted Diseases)



**Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive**



Maximising Ability, Changing Lives

The Community Acquired Brain Injury Team

The team, HSE / Acquired Brain Injury Ireland Partnership includes:

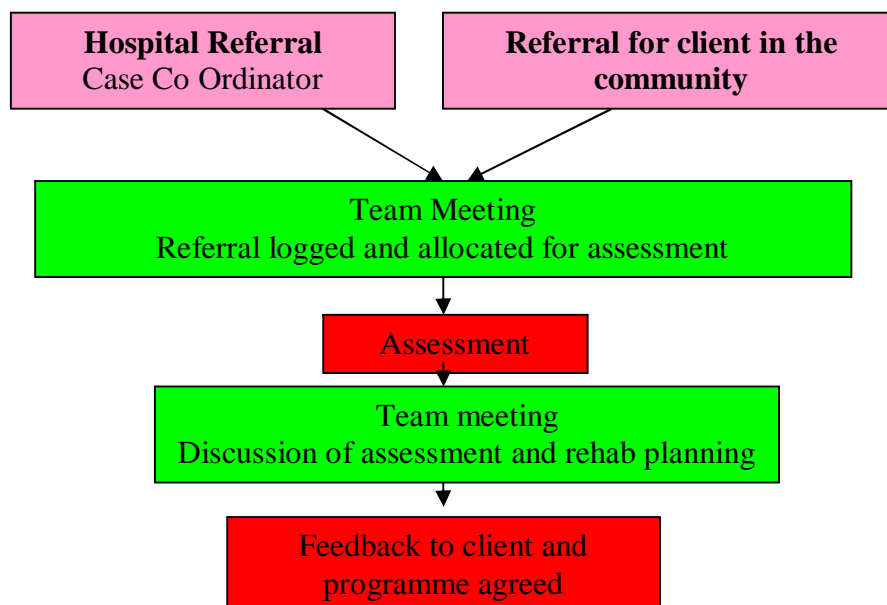
Case Coordinator:	Phil McGoldrick
ABI Ireland Local Services Manager:	Teresa O'Boyle
Senior Clinical Neuropsychologist:	Dr. Caroline Mc Grath
Senior Occupational Therapist:	Rosemary Dillon
Assistant Psychologist	Sophie O'Dea

Referral Process:

While referrals are accepted by all members of the team they are processed through the ABI Case Coordinator. All referrals are discussed by the ABI team and appropriate assessments arranged. **Referrals forms are available from the ABI team, JFK House, JFK Parade and Acquired Brain Injury Ireland, 2 Race Court Manor, Tonaphubble, Sligo.**

Assessment:

People with an ABI and a relative are seen for a comprehensive initial assessment covering background history and presenting problems. Neuropsychological, Occupational Therapy, and family needs assessments are arranged as appropriate following initial assessment. External referral to Speech and Language Therapy, Physiotherapy, Community Occupational Therapy, Psychiatry, etc. are made by the team as appropriate.



CONCUSSION/MILD HEAD INJURY

This service, on referral to the Neuropsychologist, provides information and advice to people following mild head injury, and treatment for people with persisting post concussion symptoms.

ACQUIRED BRAIN INJURY SERVICES

REHABILITATION SERVICES

Post Acute Monitoring:

In the early stages following injury people are screened by the ABI Case Co Ordinator and neuropsychological screening assessments are carried out if necessary. Advice and support is provided on the management of early difficulties. Referral is made to the rehabilitation programme where appropriate.

Rehabilitation Programme:

The programme uses a combination of individual and group based services. These include education groups, Physiotherapy, Speech & Language, a range of cognitive rehabilitation and therapy groups, supported and transitional group rehabilitation activities, individual cognitive rehabilitation, neuropsychotherapy, and community living skills. The appropriate input is recommended to the person and family based on the assessment and can range from occasional individual therapy sessions to an intensive 5 day programme, depending on need. This is a rolling programme and clients can join activities and individual rehabilitation programmes at any time. Community outreach is provided to assist the person in transferring skills from the unit to the home environment.

Family Support Programme:

The aim of this service is to increase awareness and understanding of the nature and effects of ABI, to provide information and advice about the management of ABI, and to facilitate and promote positive coping and adjustment in family and friends. Family members are included in the needs assessment process, programme planning, and review phases. In addition, specific family supports are made available to family members.

The rehabilitation and family support programmes are run jointly by ABIIreland and HSE, and referral is through the ABI Team.

Leisure and Lifestyle Programme:

This is a programme, run through the Transitional Living Unit, which focuses on finding a work/leisure balance after ABI, exploring barriers to leisure, and identifying appropriate long term leisure activity. It includes an educational group and a social club.

Transitional Living Unit

This is a house in the community staffed by trained rehabilitation assistants. Three beds are available to clients who require assistance to return to independent living. A further rehabilitative respite bed is available to clients who require a period of assessment, a 'refresher' period of rehabilitation, or to enable those who live rurally to access rehabilitation. Residents are responsible for all the tasks required of a person living in this setting, with staff available to observe and assess performance in all areas of daily living. Clients also attend the rehabilitation programme or rehabilitative training. The Unit is run by Acquired Brain Injury Ireland. Referral to the unit is through the ABI team.

Home and Personal Support Services

These services are provided through the Irish Wheelchair Association and HSE Home Help and are accessed through the ABI Case Co Ordinator.

ABI specific day and residential services are not currently available but are being planned by the HSE. However, a range of services is being accessed and supported by the ABI team. These include:

- Rehab Care, Sligo & Leitrim
- Irish wheelchair Association – Day Resource Activity Centres, Sligo and Leitrim.
- Centre for Independent Living - CIL
- North Leitrim Men's Group / LAPWD

Referrals can be made to these services through the ABI Case Coordinator.

Carers Support Group

This group meet on the first Monday night of each month. It is a support group for Carers of persons with an acquired Brain Injury. The group meets from 7.30 – 9.30pm approx. All carers of people with ABI are welcome to attend. Further details : 071 9153472 / 0872601827

SUPPORT GROUPS

Stroke Group – Ed Blake, Drumiskabole, Carraroe, Sligo.

**For further information on the services available please contact
the ABI Team through the Physical & Sensory Disability Service on 071-9135001
or Acquired Brain Injury Ireland on 071 -9153472.**